



Mr MacGregor leaves home yesterday with the roof-top protest still in progress

## M11 opponents arrested after protest on MacGregor's roof

THE Transport Secretary, Mr John MacGregor, refused to be intimidated by anti-motorway protesters who climbed on to the roof of his home yesterday, writes **Hugh Muir**.

Nine demonstrators opposing the building of the M11 link road in east London were arrested after staging the five-hour protest at Mr MacGregor's north London house.

They were brought down

by firemen but threatened to stage repeat their protests.

Mr MacGregor dismissed the stunt as "a ridiculous attempt to overturn our democratic way of doing things".

The protest, involving 20 demonstrators, began at 6.30am. Neighbours alerted police after nine people climbed on to the roof of the next-door house and clambered across.

Having steadied themselves, they unfurled a ban-

ner which read "M11 link returned to sender".

Despite the commotion, Mr MacGregor remained inside until 7.15am when he emerged to get into his car.

Police officers condemned the protest as "irresponsible" and said it had been frightening for Mrs MacGregor, who remained in the house throughout.

Nine people were later charged with disorderly behaviour.